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AUTHOR Sinagatullin, Ilghiz M.
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ABSTRACT

This book promotes multicultural education, focusing on the diverse ethnic groups that make up Russian society and drawing comparisons with the U.S. educational system to assert that a well-built multicultural classroom is key to reducing racial, ethnic, religious, class, and gender prejudices. It also examines issues of diversity in a rural setting, folk pedagogy, and ethnopedagogy that have previously remained unexplored. Six chapters include: (1) "Diversity and Change" (e.g., racial, ethnic, and linguistic diversity and diversity on the societal level); (2) "Culture and Cultural Differences" (culture as a multidimensional phenomenon and a glimpse of ethnic cultures); (3) "The Nature of Multicultural Education" (e.g., history and underlying principles and diversity of school environments); (4) "Bilingual Education with a Multicultural Perspective" (e.g., bilingualism as a sociolinguistic phenomenon and Russian language policy for students from non-Russian ethnic backgrounds); (5) "Making the Curriculum Multicultural" (e.g., multicultural concerns in social studies education and pluralistic approaches in health and music education); and (6) "Multicultural Competency of the Teacher" (attitude, knowledge base, and pedagogical skills). (Contains approximately 275 references and an index.) (SM)

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